



## *The President's Daily Brief*

~~Top Secret~~ 27 May 1968



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THE PRESIDENT'S  
DAILY BRIEF  
27 MAY 1968

1. France

The government this morning announced a provisional settlement of the nationwide strike. The heart of the agreement is an across-the-board wage hike of 7 percent for industrial workers on 1 June, and another 3 percent on 1 October.

Pompidou told the press that the agreement meets most but not all of labor's demands. It is still not altogether certain whether this will be enough to get the strikers back to work.

Prospects all the same are for more violence as students prepare for a new demonstration this afternoon in defiance of the edict suspending the right of assembly.

The response to De Gaulle's call for a referendum continues to be negative.

2. South Vietnam

Prime Minister Huong's cabinet contains no major surprises.

The key portfolios of defense and interior are retained by military officers, generals Vy and Khiem, respectively. Vy is a holdover from the Loc cabinet and is close to the senior generals. Khiem, on the other hand, has been brought in apparently to strengthen Thieu's hand against pressures from Ky's military supporters. Huong took the revolutionary development post himself.

The new cabinet favors technicians over politicians with organized support. With nine of the 18 ministers clearly identified as southerners, the new cabinet has a stronger southern flavor than its predecessor, a development not likely to sit well with Ky and other northern generals.

3. Czechoslovakia -  
Soviet Union

Neither Moscow nor Prague has had anything to say yet about the results of Kosygin's trip to Czechoslovakia which ended on Saturday. There are some signs that the Soviets will wait for the outcome of the Czech Central Committee meeting this week before deciding on their next move.

Kosygin apparently failed to extract any major concessions from the Czechs. He did get assurances, however, that Prague will participate actively in the Warsaw Pact and the "international Communist movement," and that some measures are being taken to restrict the activities of non-Communists.

4. Soviet Union

The Russians have still not commented on the crash of their TU-16 close to the USS Essex in the Norwegian Sea on Saturday.

5. Haiti

The Haitians in the Security Council today will probably charge that the US allowed the exiles to obtain aircraft and equipment in this country and tolerated anti-Duvalier broadcasts from US soil. The Haitian press has already stated that four Americans piloted the attacking aircraft.

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6. Cuba

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President Dorticos had been out of public sight for two months. We now learn that he appeared last week on Havana television.

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7. Thailand

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*FOR THE PRESIDENT'S EYES ONLY*

- 1.) Special Daily Report on North Vietnam
- 2.) North Vietnamese Reflections of U S  
Political Attitudes



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Special Daily Report on North Vietnam  
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I. NOTES ON THE SITUATION

War Crimes Tribunal to Meet in Paris: The International War Crimes Tribunal is proceeding with plans to hold a conference next month in Paris, notwithstanding the French internal situation and the current talks between the US and North Vietnam.

the conference is to deal with "United States genocide in Vietnamese population centers since the Tet offensive."

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Hanoi Proposes Postponement of Elections: A committee of North Vietnam's National Assembly has proposed that Assembly members' terms of office be prolonged, according to a Hanoi broadcast of 25 May. The committee suggests that elections be postponed until "the situation permits." Assembly elections had been scheduled for sometime this year.

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## II. NORTH VIETNAMESE REFLECTIONS OF US POLITICAL ATTITUDES ON THE WAR

There is nothing of significance to report today.

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